GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:14
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2017
Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourers
Vasava Shri Parbhubhai Nagarbhai

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a)the salient features of the Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourers Scheme along with its present status;
(b) the details of the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized under this scheme during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
(c)the number of bonded labourers rescued under the scheme during the said period, gender-wise and State/UT-wise; and
(d)whether the Government proposes to increase the scope of the said scheme and if so, the details thereof along with the time by which it is likely to be materialised?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *14 FOR 17.07.2017 BY SHRI PARBHUBHAI NAGARBHAI VASAVA REGARDING REHABILITATION OF BONDED LABOURERS.

(a): The salient features of the 'Central Sector Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourer, 2016' are as under:
(1) Financial assistance is provided for rehabilitation of a rescued bonded labourer at the rate of rupees one lakh for adult male beneficiary, Rs. 2 lakh for special category beneficiaries such as children including orphans or those rescued from organized & forced begging rings or other forms of forced child labour, and women and Rs. 3 lakh in cases of bonded or forced labour involving extreme cases of deprivation or marginalization such as trans-genders, or women or children rescued from ostensible sexual exploitation such as brothels, massage parlours, placement agencies etc., or trafficking, or in cases of differently abled persons, or in situations where the District Magistrate deems fit.
(2) The amount for rehabilitation is 100% funded by the Central Government on a reimbursement basis.
(3) The Scheme also provides for financial assistance of Rs. 4.50 lakh per district to the States for conducting survey of bonded labourers, Rs. 1.00 Lakh for evaluatory studies and Rs. 10 Lakhs per State per annum for awareness generation. Central Government will give 50% of the amount required for conducting Survey, Awareness Generation and Evaluatory Studies in advance. A State may conduct survey once in every three years per sensitive district. A State may conduct five Evaluatory Studies per year.
(4) The release of rehabilitation assistance has been linked with conviction of the accused. However, Immediate assistance upto Rs. 20,000/- may be provided to the rescued bonded labour by the District Administration irrespective of the status of conviction proceedings.
(5) The Scheme provides for creation of a Bonded Labour Rehabilitation Fund at District level by each State with a permanent corpus of at least Rs. 10 lakh at the disposal of the District Magistrate for extending immediate help to the released bonded labourers.
(6) The benefits prescribed above shall be, in addition to, other cash or non-cash benefits which a beneficiary under this scheme is entitled to, by or under any other scheme or law applicable for the time being in force. Further, the above benefits are in addition to other land and housing elements etc. as mentioned below:

â€¢ Allotment of house-site and agricultural land.
â€¢ Land development.
â€¢ Provision of low cost dwelling units.
â€¢ Animal husbandry, dairy, poultry, piggery etc.
â€¢ Wage employment, enforcement of minimum wages etc.
â€¢ Collection and processing of minor forest products.
â€¢ Supply of essential commodities under targeted public distribution system.
â€¢ Education for children.
(b) & (c): Under the Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour which is in operation since May, 1978, the State/UT-wise details of Central share released towards Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour and number of bonded labour released and rehabilitated during the last three years and the current year is as under:
Year State Number of bonded labour released and rehabilitated Amount (Rs. in lakh)
2014-15 Chhattisgarh 853 85.30
2015-16 Uttar Pradesh 2216 221.60
2016-17 Bihar 1792 179.20

Jharkhand 118 11.80
Odisha 258 25.80
Uttar Pradesh 258 25.80
Karnataka 181 18.1
2017-18 -- -- --

Gender-wise details of bonded labourers rescued and released are not centrally maintained. In addition, during 2014-15, an amount of Rs. 10.00 Lakhs was released to the State Government of Gujarat for conducting Awareness generation activities.

(d): No, Madam.
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